

September 13th 1969

Hendon v Wycombe

Hero John Maskell is tipped for England

Hendon 0, Wycombe Wanderers 1

GOALKEEPER JOHN MASKELL was the undisputed hero of Wycombe's 1-0 victory at Hendon's Claremont Road ground on Saturday.

He made some sensational second-half saves after Hendon had been stunned with a 19th-minute goal by left-winger Geoff Anthony, and at the end of the game was being freely tipped as a candidate for the England squad.

He had a more spectacular game than current England keeper, John Swannell, intercepting two stinging shots from Hendon's man-of-the-match Rod Haider, brilliantly plucking a sizzling header by Bobby Wilson from almost under the crossbar, and cutting out the dangerous crosses from Hendon's only winger, outside-right Peter Anderson.

Though exerting so much pressure, Hendon left their defensive line extremely thin during their second-half onslaught as they tried desperately to pull back a goal. But it was a situation that Wycombe, looking dangerous with breakaways, failed to exploit.

The reason was the weakness of substitute Viv Busby, who came on in the 72nd minute for a limping Len Worley.

Busby allowed too much room, had two golden chances to consolidate Wycombe's slender advantage but was hopeless with his finishing.

Wycombe, one of the few Isthmian League sides to complete the double over Hendon—this they achieved last season—had a 12th-minute scare when Bobby Wilson burst through their defence, chasing a pass from Peter Smith, only to shoot wide.

Welsh amateur international winger Anthony gave a preview of his potential danger with a dashing run down the left flank. He was chased by Smith, snapping like an angry dog at his heels, and just when Anthony looked like gaining ground, the referee called a halt as Smith attempted an angry looking tackle from behind. Fortunately for Anthony it missed.

Centre-half Mick Cannon saved Hendon in the 4th minute when he cleared a shot from Anthony off the line, but five minutes later, Wycombe went ahead.

A dangerous Worley cross was only partially headed away by Cannon and Vince Faulkner flicked the ball to Anthony, who side-stepped a stranded Haider and smashed the ball into the left-hand corner of the net, well out of Swannell's reach.

A cleverly taken free kick by Haider from just outside the penalty area after powerful John Delaney had floored an equally brawny Cannon, almost caught Wycombe napping. Anderson broke as Haider took the kick, but the ball was a fraction too high for the winger, who had taken the visiting defence completely by surprise.

Hendon: J. Swannell, D. Hogwood, M. Cooper, D. Shacklock, M. Cannon, R. Haider, P. Anderson, R. Wilson, J. Baker, P. Smith (sub: P. Collett), J. Wilson.

Wycombe: J. Maskell, I. Rundle, G. Gale, J. Lalley, J. Delaney, K. Samuels, R. Worley (sub: V. Busby), B. Baker, V. Faulkner, A. Horseman, G. Anthony.

Maskell keeps out Hendon

By LANCE MASTERS

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WYCOMBE bring a whiff of nostalgia to their football by indulging in the almost forgotten luxury of having two orthodox wingers. It paid off at Hendon in the Isthmian League, though the brilliance of Maskell in goal saved them at times.

Maskell made a string of astonishing saves in the second half when Hendon were surging forward with desperate energy to force an equaliser. On this showing, he must be a candidate for the England place held for so long by Swannell, a cool observer from the opposite end.

Two of his best saves were from shots by Haider, Hendon's chief midfield plotter and one of the finest amateur players in soccer. Anderson also teased Maskell with his deft crosses, but there was nobody in the centre with the power to take the goals that were so tantalisingly close.

If Wycombe had the worst of the second-half, during which Worley hobbled off and Hendon replaced Smith, they certainly commanded events before half-time. The direct methods of their wingers had already stretched Hendon before Anthony, collecting a pass from Faulkner, swinging neatly between two defenders to score after 19 minutes.